POPULATION TODAY

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FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

The old people are coming! The old people are coming! You're heard that threat before, especially from those who have peered into U.S. population projections and seen that by the year 2030 those 65 and over will make up 21 percent of the national population.

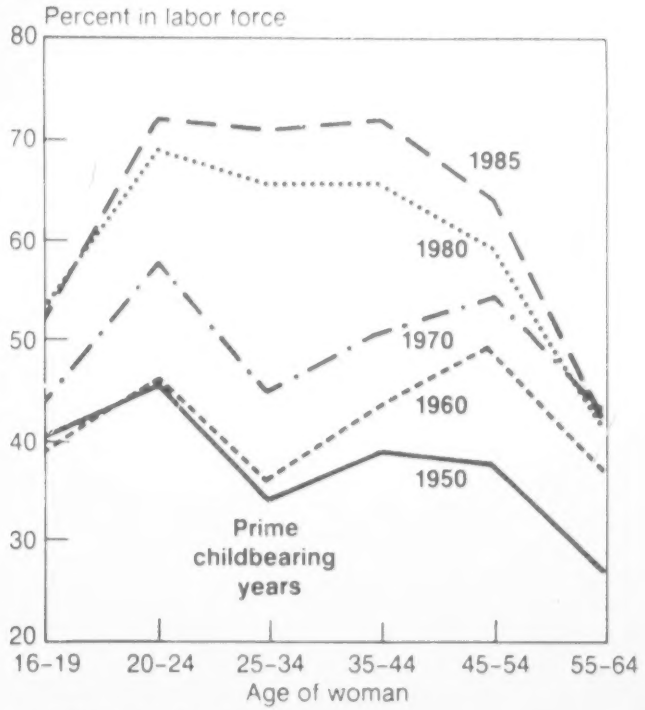
According to business experts, that demographic watershed will mean a epochal change in the marketplace: an imminent mature consumer world of low-maintenance condos, pharmaceuticals, solid portfolios, and deluxe recliner chairs. Make your investments in these areas early, goes this line of thinking, and cash in on the inexorable aging of America.

But we wonder (after a visit, credit card in hand, to our favorite local shopping mall). The frivolousness of the goods has remained unchanged. Only the customers have changed; they've aged. So not only are these would-be members of "The Big Chill" generation healthier, more athletic, taking better care of themselves (etc., etc.) than the previous semi-oldsters, they're more likely to buy wind-up Godzilla dolls. For themselves. Sans embarrassment. So the hot markets of the 21st century may not be in prudent consumables, but in frivolities to end all frivolities. You watch.

—Art Haupt

SPEAKING GRAPHICALLY

Labor Force Participation for U.S. Women by Age: 1950-1985



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How Romania Tries to Govern Fertility

> The fetus is the socialist property of the whole society. Giving birth is a patriotic duty determining the fate of our country. Those who refuse to have children are deserters, escaping the laws of national continuity.
>
> *Nicolae Ceausescu*
> *President of Romania*
> *October 1986 (quoted in Der Spiegel)*

In 1966, alarmed by a national birth rate of 14 births per 1,000 population, Romania's Communist government abruptly ended legal access to abortion and announced a national goal to raise the birth rate and increase its national population by 30 percent to 24-25 million by 1990.

Reports of coercion to encourage births have been coming out of Romania ever since. But now, two decades later, the government of Nicolae Ceausescu is unswerving in pursuit of higher fertility. Contraceptives are banned, neither manufactured nor imported, and employed women up to age 45 are required to undergo monthly gynecological examination at their workplaces. The lame official explanation for the latter program is that it serves as a health checkup. But this monthly exam is clearly concerned with finding pregnancy and when found, monitoring the pregnancy to term.

From 1.9 to 3.6 and Back

Abortion specialist Henry David reports in the latest issue of *Abortion Research Notes*, published by the Transnational Family Research Institute, that women's participation in the program is required in order for them to receive other medical care. Further, unmarried persons over 25 and childless married couples without a valid medical reason for infertility are assessed a special 30-percent tax on income. (Legal abortion is reserved principally for medical emergencies; the minimum age for abortion on request for women with fewer than four children has now been raised from age 40 to age 45.)

In a recent national demographic survey, married women were asked about their weekly frequency of sexual relations. The next question was: "Why have you not conceived?"

Despite the intensive efforts related above, the success of Romania's pronatalism drive has been distinctly mixed. In the years before the 1966 abortion ban, the country had a total fertility rate (TFR) of about 1.9 births per woman, which was below replacement level. Two years after the abortion decree, fertility had shot up to 3.6, but since that peak the rate has been on a gradual downslide year by year. As of 1983 the TFR had dropped to about 2.0.

Romania's strict abortion ban has achieved only mixed success.

While overt political protest is not a part of Romanian life, David reports unofficial estimates suggesting that despite the government's policy, about 40 percent of the approximately 700,000 Romanian women pregnant in 1985 had illegal abortions. To combat this, a special unit has been established within the State Security Police.

> 'Why have you not conceived?' the government survey asked women

Oddly, for a country so determined to increase its population, Romania's reinforcements for promoting pronatalism remain principally negative: restrictions on abortion and contraceptive distribution, and the organizational mechanisms for enforcing these. Positive inducements used in other European countries, such as birth lump-sum payments, maternity leave, and family income supplements are relatively meager, presumably because of national financial austerity.

Romania's determination to boost its population size can be seen in the context of external security concerns. Its 23 million population is about the size of Yugoslavia's. Next to Poland (38 million), these two countries are the most populous in Eastern Europe, but compared to the USSR they seem compact-sized. Though both have Communist governments, they hew to independent foreign-policy courses. It's possible that Romania, while a titular member of the Warsaw Pact, encourages population increase as a form of self-protection.

In addition, recent years have been disappointing for the Romanian economy. To save fuel and stretch national assets, the government has resorted to such draconian measures as winter-long electricity brownouts. As other Communist countries have in the past, Romania may see population growth as a way of alleviating labor shortages and thus increasing economic output.

The government's tough approach regarding matters of life and death is exemplified by a report (in a recent *New York Review of Books* article) that in Romania, ambulance rescue squads responding to an emergency ask the caller for the age of the afflicted person before they start out. If the patient's age is advanced, the arrival of medical assistance is retarded. It has also been reported that parents are not permitted to register the birth of a child until the child is one month old; this unusual procedure does not seem to have any utility other than to lower infant mor-

Continued on next page

Romania

Continued from preceding page

tality statistics (Romania's current rate is reported to be 24 infant deaths per 1,000 live births).

Governing Fertility

Considering the severity of other measures – the enforced registration of typewriters, for example – the way Romania implements its anti-abortion policy may just be another example of its governmental style, not a national anti-abortion crusade. Nevertheless, spokespersons have insisted on the sincerity of the government's desire to increase population growth, and argue that their progress in this area has been greater than that of other European countries.

Countries everywhere vary greatly in their fertility policies. Among Communist nations, for example, the USSR encourages higher fertility but probably has the world's highest legal national abortion rate (over one abortion for every birth). China's strong stand on birth control and abortion is well documented. But in all the world, Romania may be the country where fertility is most regulated – or perhaps one should say, enforced. – *AH*

Euro Conference Coming in June

A European Population Conference: Issues and Prospects takes place June 11-16, 1987, in Jyvaskyla, Finland.

The conference's seven plenary meetings and 25 sessions will focus on a wide range of topics concerning the population of Europe. It is sponsored by the International Union for the Scientific Study of Population (IUSSP), the European Association for Population Studies (EAPS), and FINNCO, a Finnish consortium comprised of the Finnish Demographic Society, the Finnish Population and Family Welfare Federation, and the Central Statistical Office of Finland.

For further information, contact: Dr. Altti Majava, Chairman of the Organizing Committee, c/o FINNCO-Travel Experts, PO Box 722, SF-00101 Helsinki, Finland; or Bruno Remiche, Executive Secretary, IUSSP, 34 rue des Augustins, 4000 Liege, Belgium; or Nico van Nimwegen, Executive Secretary, EAPS, PO Box 11676, 2502 AR, The Hague, The Netherlands.

SURVEY REPORT

Puerto Rico

Puerto Rico may have the world's highest rates of sterilization, according to the 1982 Fertility and Family Planning Assessment.

The 3.3 million inhabitants of this Caribbean island, a commonwealth associated with the U.S., are primarily Spanish speaking, and a majority are Roman Catholic. Traditionally, these factors would discourage use of sterilization, yet a marked preference for this method, documented in a 1976 survey, has continued into the 1980s. In a 1982 survey, 41 percent of the married women had been sterilized to prevent pregnancies, and another 4.6 percent had husbands who had been sterilized. Even more surprising, a sizable proportion of young women – 39 percent of married women aged 25-29 – opted for this type of "permanent" birth control, according to the survey.

Overall contraceptive use in Puerto Rico is high. Sixty-nine percent of married women were using some form of birth control in 1982. This is almost identical to the rate for the U.S. married women in that year. However, female sterilization accounted for 58 percent of overall birth control use in Puerto Rico, compared to only 26 percent in the U.S.

And while only 5 percent of Puerto Rican couples rely on vasectomy, this is a higher level of male sterilization than in any Latin American country. Next to sterilization among married couples, the pill (8.3 percent), rhythm (5.2 percent), and the condom (4.4 percent) were the most common contraceptive methods in 1982.

While the survey data show high contraceptive use among women in all socioeconomic levels, sterilization is twice as prevalent among less educated women as among college-educated women. Conversely, reliance on male sterilization is greater among couples in which the wife has at least a high school education.

Widespread sterilization among younger women and women with only two or three children has had a major impact on the Puerto Rican birth rate, which declined from 33 to 20 from 1960 to 1986. An estimated 33 percent of the decline in marital fertility between 1977 and 1982 has been attributed to the level of sterilization.

Although the high rate of overall contraceptive use might imply that Puerto Rican women have adequate access to family planning methods, the heavy reliance on sterilization by younger women shows that they are better at limiting the number of births than spacing them. Twenty-seven percent of the sterilized women had never used any other method before their operation. This suggests that Puerto Rican women need better access to information about reliable reversible methods in order to plan their families more effectively. – *MK*

The Great American Juggling Act

One of the most vexing and common questions facing working mothers is: How to care for children while simultaneously working in the marketplace (short of being in two places at once)

Obtaining convenient, reliable child care is a challenge presently still far from solution for many women. But the need is there. Whereas in 1950 barely one out of every eight women with a child under age 6 was working, by 1985 this statistic had risen to one of every two women. Further, the lack of affordable child care is probably preventing many poorly educated and low-income mothers from working at all, when they are the women who need jobs the most.

In the new PRB Population Trends Paper, "Juggling Jobs and Babies: America's Child Care Challenge," Census Bureau demographer Martin O'Connell and Harvard economist David E. Bloom describe the current status of public and private policies designed to ease this burden.

Policies in the workplace could include:

- More flexible work schedules;
- More freedom to work at home;
- Job benefits which include payment for child care;
- Employer-sponsored on-site child care centers;
- More liberal maternity and paternity leave;
- Use of sick leave to care for children.

In addition, public policies can be and have been enacted in many jurisdictions, including:

- Tax credits for child care costs;
- Federally funded child care for some low-income parents;
- Regulation of the child care industry;
- Tax rulings increasing the flexibility of employee benefits plans.

While employers are beginning to initiate new workplace policies, as yet only a small fraction of U.S. women are benefiting from them. O'Connell and Bloom write that encouragement for employers may be forthcoming from federal, state, and local governments. In addition, with "family" a professed concern of politics and government, Congress is considering other legislation, e.g., liberalization of maternity and paternity leave benefits.

One fresh uncertainty is the Tax Reform Act of 1986, which increases the income deduction for a dependent child (to $1,900), but eliminates the deduction for married couples when both work. But the low-income and single mothers most in need of child care are unlikely to be affected by these tax provisions. And in any case, over the past two decades women have moved to become a major, permanent component of the U.S. labor force. This "feminized workforce" can be expected to demand some form of assistance for child care services as part of their employment.

Copies of "Juggling Jobs and Babies: America's Child Care Challenge," by Martin O'Connell and David E. Bloom are available for $3.00 per single copy; 2-10 copies, $2.30 each; 11-50 copies, $1.90 each; 51 or more, $1.50 each. Orders of $50 or less must be prepaid and include $1.00 for postage and handling. Send order and remittance to Population Reference Bureau, Inc., Circulation Dept., P.O. Box 96152, Washington, DC 20090-6152. Make checks payable to PRB.

COUNTDOWN TO 1990

The U.S. Census Bureau is about to conduct a door-to-door test census in 10 counties in North Dakota. This exercise, testing procedures planned for the 1990 decennial census, is slated to begin in late March 1987. It comes as the last in a series of tests that started in 1984, covering all types of geographic areas likely to be encountered during the U.S. Census Day, when some quarter-billion Americans will be counted.

The North Dakota exercise will test improved computer processing and data collection methods that are under development for 1990. These will be used to enumerate a very rural area and two Indian reservations.

The results of these counts will pave the way for dress rehearsal censuses to be held in 1988. As the sobriquet "dress rehearsal" implies, the 1988 enumerations will constitute a final run-through for the actual questions, equipment, and procedures finalized for Census Day 1990. The dress rehearsals are planned for St. Louis (urban), several counties in Missouri (semi-urban), and several counties in Washington (quite rural).

Meanwhile, at home in Suitland, Md., the Bureau is preparing to submit to Congress the areas of subject matter to be covered on the 1990 questionnaires. Subject matter must be submitted in April 1987 and be approved by the House and Senate committees that have oversight over the Bureau. In April 1988, the Bureau must submit the actual questions for approval.

Since Congressional approval of subject matter and questions began only in 1980, no one has a handle on how the approval procedure will proceed in an age when the decennial census is increasingly caught up in national political squabbles. Several of the suits filed to enjoin the Bureau to adjust its 1980 Census counts are still alive in the courts, although (thus far) no successful challenge has ever been mounted against the Bureau's policy of not altering its official totals to adjust for undercount.

Incidentally, FOSDIC (Film Optical Scanning Device for Input to Computers) will be back in 1990. The procedure has nothing to do with the fearless detective who appeared in "Li'l Abner," but everything to do with photographing the filled-in blips on people's census forms on a continuous roll of film, which is subsequently fed into computers. In 1980 there were three FOSDIC sites; in 1990 there will be 11 regional ones, for faster processing of census data from the field.

—A.H.

DEMOGRAPHER'S PAGE

What is Philadelphia?

by Carl Haub

How many times has the following scene been repeated?

A family is driving north to visit an aunt in Philadelphia, when a small voice pipes up from the rear seat, not for the first time, "Daddy, is this Philadelphia?", "No," replies Dad a bit wearily, "We're in Wilmington, we're still in Delaware."

A while later, the Jersey flatlands give way to increasing development and again the inevitable question is issued from the rear seat. This time Dad can at least say that these are the beginnings of the city's suburbs. And, at last, as the car comes down from a long bridge, Mom can finally announce, "Now, we're in Philadelphia!"

There is a reason for this apparently nondemographic anecdote. An inquiry frequently received by PRB's information staff is an apparently simple one. What is the largest city in the world? Or a request may come for a list of the 20 largest cities. Or, simpler still, someone may only ask for the population size of a single city, such as New York or Bombay. Can these seemingly straightforward questions be answered?

Well, not always.

In Greater New York

If all countries defined their cities and their jurisdictions in a uniform way, there would be little problem. When two cities happened to be located near one another, there might be some doubt about where to count some of the population in between, but, all in all, things would be relatively straightforward. But countries don't do that, and neither do states within the U.S. for that matter, so we have problems.

Much of the difficulty stems from the important distinction between the "city proper" and the "metropolitan area" (the city improper?). For example, how large is New York? The city itself, which consists of five counties, also called boroughs, has a population of over 7 million. But we know that New York's local social and economic influence extends far beyond its legal boundaries. This nebulous area is usually referred to as the "metropolitan area" or, in this case, Greater New York. We all agree that such an area exists, but do we agree upon just who lives there and who doesn't?

We do not. The statistical agencies of many countries expend a great deal of effort to devise definition criteria which will yield consistent results from place to place, be palatable politically, and not injure local pride. If, for example, everyone in City B thinks of everyone in its larger neighbor, City A, as "them," they may not relish the idea of being lumped together as the "City A – City B Metropolitan Area" by the National Bureau of Involuntary Classifications.

> If only cities and countries defined their jurisdictions uniformly . . .

In the United States, the Bureau of the Census groups cities and their suburban and exurban counties into metro areas. One of the criteria is commuting to work, an entirely logical way of doing things. And the Bureau works closely with local authorities to classify cities and populations in ways which meet with their approval.

But the vagaries of geography and local politics often get sticky. One day, the Census Bureau announced that San Francisco had passed Philadelphia in population.

Of course, the City by the Bay itself still looked considerably smaller than the City of Brotherly Love to any casual observer, including a San Francisco reporter who called PRB to find out what was going on.

Of CMSAs and PMSAs

We explained that the Bay Area's *metro area* had passed Philadelphia's, hence the Bureau's announcement. Then, the reporter, beginning to believe in all this, asked just what those metro areas comprised. Well, we went on, San Francisco's Metro Area takes in quite a few surrounding counties and the city of Oakland and stretches as far south as Santa Cruz County.

This definition seemed a bit broad to the reporter, especially the presence of Santa Cruz, and he began to forget the whole thing. It is interesting to note that the National Geographic's *North American Atlas* gives the correct (greater than Philadelphia) population for San Francisco's metro area, but the southern edge of its map of that area stops short of Santa Cruz. Yet San Francisco would not have "passed Philadelphia" without the inclusion of Santa Cruz County's population.

The reporter was particularly surprised to hear that Wilmington, Del., and Trenton, N.J., were part of Philadelphia's metro area. (Dad, then, was wrong when he thought he wasn't in Philadelphia.)

The Census Bureau has found it necessary to devise more complex definition systems, but perhaps only because society itself has grown more complex. Metro areas are a prime example of this. In the U.S., the largest metro areas are called Consolidated Metropolitan Statistical Areas (CMSAs), broken down into Primary Metropolitan Statistical Areas (PMSAs).[1] The PMSAs consist of the large city itself and adjacent smaller ones, such as New York City and Newark, N.J. Thus, the smaller city can have some identity of its own, despite its interdependence with its larger neighbor. But – when one asks about the population of "Philadelphia," is one thinking about Trenton?

It is not likely that we will ever see a sign saying "Welcome to the Philadel-

Carl Haub is the Director of Demographic Analysis and Public Information at PRB

phia Primary Metropolitan Statistical Area." It is also doubtful that lyricists will ever describe San Francisco as "the CMSA by the sea."

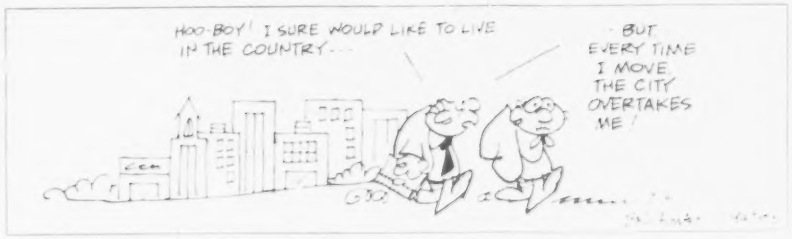
On another occasion, the Bureau of Economic Analysis issued a press release saying that New York would be passed by Los Angeles by 2000. This did not strike many as odd, despite the fact that New York City is twice as large as L.A., and many stories appeared about L.A.'s impending demographic dominance. A little digging showed that Los Angeles' *PMSA* was projected to pass New York's. This is tantamount to allowing L.A. to count its many surrounding suburbs but only allowing New York to include the city plus its suburbs to the north.

On the other hand, it is true that the city of Los Angeles is a comparatively small part of its metro area, so perhaps the comparison is not so unfair. Not counting places such as Pasadena in L.A.'s population would be a bit like not counting Brooklyn in New York. But, on the *other* hand, shouldn't "New York" be allowed to count its suburbs on Long Island and New Jersey? Are we comparing Big Apples to big oranges? (A family was driving from Cucamonga to L.A., when . . . well, you get the idea.)

None of this is intended as carping at any system of classifying population as metro or nonmetro. Such schemes are essential for analyses, although they are often quite tricky to explain to those who do not use them every day. In many countries, the real culprit is really just the simple fact of population growth around the cities. Suburban "rings" become major employment centers themselves as the "city" relentlessly pushes beyond its original boundaries into more bucolic environs.

It may be possible under local laws to expand the city's boundaries or it may not be. San Jose, Calif., is famous for its large annual number of annexations of bits of adjoining territory, while Boston is a good example of a city which is only a small part (about 15 percent) of its overall metro area and which cannot annex adjoining towns. There are quite a few cities for which the problem is lessened. Viewed from the air, Omaha and St. Louis appear more like islands of urban development amid the hills and farms. The Census Bureau has even defined Urbanized Areas (UAs) to correspond to the appearance of continuously built-up areas, but the detailed population data needed to build up those areas can only be obtained during a full census, that is, every 10 years.

The Small Society, by Brickman



1985 King Features Syndicate, Inc.

> Is it 'impossible to draw an accurate line showing where country leaves and city begins'?

The "World's Largest" What?

Now, from Philadelphia to what PRB has come to refer to as the "Tokyo problem."

In attempting to answer the simple question "What is the world's largest city?" one might turn to the publications of major organizations which have spent a great deal of time compiling lists of such things. One of the more commonly used lists is that published by the United Nations, giving the ranking of the 30 largest "urban agglomerations." These metro areas vary somewhat from country to country (if they are defined at all) and have names such as metropolitan districts, *zonas metropolitanas*, or conurbations.

The UN lists the metro areas as reported and defined by the country, if possible. This list gives Mexico City as the world's largest with a metro population of 18 million. Tokyo-Yokohama is next with 17 million. (One odd entrant is Rhein-Ruhr, West Germany; this heavy industry zone is certainly built-up; it has a population of 9 million, but it jibes with few people's notion of a "city.")

The *Information Please Almanac* includes a table showing Shanghai's population as the largest with 10.8 million, but the *Almanac* notes that metro areas and cities proper are mixed within the table and cautions that the rankings are "approximate." The *Encyclopedia Britannica* notes that the term "city" has many meanings and that "it is impossible to draw an accurate line as to where country leaves and city begins."

That may be too harsh a statement since, given sufficiently detailed data, such a demarcation can be attempted, if quite laboriously. In a new profile of world population, the U.S. Census Bureau's Center for International Research has ranked the world's major metropolises, along with summarizing other world population measures and trends (see "Census Bureau Takes on World," page 9).

Number One, by the Census Bureau's reckoning, Tokyo-Yokohama, a 1,089-square-mile area with an estimated 25.4 million people as of 1985.

Continued on next page

Demographer's Page

Continued from preceding page

Mexico City, usually cited Number One by the UN and the media, comes in a distant second in this listing, a 522-square-mile area with 16.9 million people as of 1985. Sao Paulo is third (451 square miles, 14.9 million); New York is fourth (1,274 square miles, 14.6 million); and Seoul, fifth (342 square miles, 13.7 million).

To arrive at meaningfully comparable totals, the Bureau first had to create a consistent definition of "city." The principal parameter: "population clusters of continuous built-up area with a population density of at least 5,000 persons per square mile."

With this definition in hand, the Bureau proceeded to examine closely the geography of the world's urban sprawls. The population "boundary" of each city was determined by examining detailed maps in conjunction with the most recent official population figures. In principle, contiguous areas meeting the density requirement were included as part of the city for estimation purposes, no matter how these might differ from the local political-jurisdiction borders. So that Detroit "includes" Windsor, Ontario, for example. (Nonresidential areas such as airports, industrial parks, etc., were purposely excluded from area calculations so as not to skew the final density figures.) The result: a persuasive population ranking of the top 85 cities according to a common measure.

Still, any researcher wishing to obtain a population figure for say, Tokyo, would do well to understand what is meant by such areas as Tokyo-to, the Ku area, and Tokyo Metropolis and to allow for demographic changes. When Nassau and Suffolk counties were removed from the New York metro area in the 1970s, for instance, the published population for "New York" decreased by some 2 million.

Since there is no easy answer to the question of cities, what to do? The most practical solution is to pick a list one feels reasonably comfortable with, understand the methods used to compile it, and stay with it. At least one can then be consistent when observing cities' rise and fall on world rankings of population size.

Meanwhile, here in the tri-state area

Reference

1. Haub, Carl, The Last Metro Definition? *Population Today*, Nov. 1985.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

There is a major flaw in the note "Fertility and Revolution" (*PT*, "Take a Number," July/August 1986). Your statement attributing the Hungarian fertility decline of the 1950s to the 1956 revolt is unsubstantiated. Let me list several circumstances that should be taken into account.

1. One of the reasons for what is labeled a modest postwar "baby boom" is the fact that existing stringent anti-abortion laws were being increasingly enforced in the early 1950s because the government was worried about declining fertility. An eminent Hungarian social scientist, Imre Hirschler, evaluated the fertility increase of the early 1950s as follows: "The achieved increase in the number of births can be attributed to the draconian severity of punishment for criminal abortions." ("Volksrepublik Ungarn," *Internationale Abortsituation, Abortbekamptung, Antikonzeption*, ed. Karl-Heinz Mehlan, Leipzig: VEB Georg Thieme, 1961, pp. 114-122.)

2. The highest postwar level of fertility, a total fertility rate (TFR) of 3.0, was achieved in 1954. By 1956 the TFR had declined to 2.6, i.e., by the time of the 1956 revolt a fertility decline was already under way, as was the case in other East European countries such as Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Poland, Romania, and Yugoslavia.

3. Liberal induced-abortion legislation making abortion available upon the request of the woman was enacted in Hungary in June 1956, six months before the revolt.

4. During the postwar period, major social and economic transformations were under way, and these were influencing reproductive behavior. Some of these were peculiar to the East European political systems, but most of them were common to all developed countries, such as rising material expectations and aspirations, gradual emancipation of women, increased female labor force participation, and numerous other trends.

In sum, it is unlikely that a fertility trend in any one country can be explained by a single event. The fertility decline of the 1950s in Hungary might have been slightly modified by the 1956 revolt, but it is fair to assume that this decline would not have been very different, even without the revolt.

Sincerely,
Tomas Frejka
Senior Representative
Latin America and the Caribbean
The Population Council
Mexico City

While no demographic trend can ever be attributed to a single cause, dramatic events can intervene to produce short-term changes in rates. In Hungary, the sharp drop in fertility in 1957 was obviously affected by abortion legislation, as Dr. Frejka points out, and the effect of the revolt can never be known. Could the political and economic situation have motivated women to use abortion? In any event, many have noticed the negative natural increase reported by Hungary and wondered why, since its total fertility rate is higher than West Germany's. The smaller number of women in the most fertile age groups accounts largely for this. If the age distribution had been more "normal," Hungary would likely have had a slightly positive natural increase.

—Editor's note

Project HEAP's Population Push

The American Home Economics Association (AHEA) is renewing its program efforts involving pregnancy prevention, population education, and family planning activities.

A new grant from the Hewlett Foundation will provide renewed funding for AHEA's Project HEAP (Home Economics Assistance in Population Programs) for another three-year period, Gladys Gary Vaughn, AHEA research unit administrator, announced. The grant includes assistance to population education programs both in less developed countries and in the U.S., although approximately 80 percent of the assistance is earmarked for the former.

The AHEA holds a longstanding interest in population issues around the world. Its emphasis on providing leadership in population/family planning education was outlined in its Resolution on Population adopted by the AHEA Assembly in June 1985. In November 1986 its Population Education Committee revised and set additional objectives for its new Five Year Plan for Population Programs.

The U.S. phase of Project HEAP focuses primarily on adolescent pregnancy prevention, including teacher-training workshops and dissemination of research findings, Vaughn said. Another project involves community outreach to limited English-speaking groups, such as Laotian and Haitian refugees, and other special groups such as black and hispanic Americans, as well as incarcerated youth and low-income teenagers.

International initiatives include continued support of AHEA's Project Rural Reach, which trains Tanzanian field workers to reach village women with population/family planning information.

Also planned by AHEA are expansion of Project Rural Reach to another African country; support of African home economists' population presentations at the 16th Congress of the International Federation of Home Economics (to be held in Minneapolis in 1988); dissemination of population education training information and program/management models in newsletters such as AHEA's *International Update;* and additional special projects. —*M.D.*

POSITIONS/PROFESSIONALS

Director of News Polling and Research, *Minneapolis Star and Tribune,* to be responsible for newspaper polls and related newsroom research. *Qualifications:* experience in journalism and research, including statistics and survey design; graduate degree in research-related field. *Salary:* open. *Contact:* Mike Finney, Deputy Managing Editor, 425 Portland Ave., Minneapolis, Minn. 55488.

POPULATION UPDATE

Estimated United States Population:

As of September 1, 1986	241,888,000
As of September 1, 1985	239,494,000

The above estimates include armed forces overseas and are from U.S. Bureau of the Census, Current Population Reports, Series P-25, No. 994.

Estimated World Population:

As of February 1987	4,991,000,000
Annual growth	83,000,000

Estimated by extrapolation of the mid-1986 population given on PRB's 1986 World Population Data Sheet.

Latest Provisional Statistics for the U.S.: September 1986

	12 months ending with September					
	Number		Rate			
Item	1986	1985	1986	1985	1984	1983
Live births	3,726,000	3,750,000	15.5	15.8	15.5	15.8
Deaths	2,096,000	2,082,000	8.7	8.8	8.6	8.6
Natural increase	1,630,000	1,668,000	6.8	7.0	6.9	7.2
Marriages	2,387,000	2,432,000	9.9	10.2	10.5	10.6
Divorces	1,181,000	1,187,000	4.9	5.0	4.9	5.1
Infant deaths	39,300	39,300	10.6	10.5	10.7	10.9
Population base (in millions)			240.4	237.8	235.6	233.2

Note: Rates are given per 1,000 population, except for infant deaths, which are given per 1,000 live births. Rates are based on revised population estimates from the 1980 Census.

Source: Monthly Vital Statistics Report (Vol. 35, No. 9) from the National Center for Health Statistics.

Census Bureau Takes on World

The U.S. Census Bureau's new *World Population Profile: 1985* is a snappy 53-page summary of the latest population trends around the globe. Aimed at a general audience, the *Profile* glossily glosses demographic highlights with special paragraphs, supplemented by numerous charts, graphs, and succinct sidebars. Of particular help are basic statistics on 205 geopolitical entities (including Taiwan), and the Bureau's urban-area population summary breaks new ground in the way the areas were counted. (See "Demographer's Page," page 6.)

For information on *World Population Profile: 1985,* contact: Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, DC 20402.

TAKE A NUMBER

Japan Again: It would appear that Japan will have record low infant mortality – it already has the world's highest life expectancy – when all country results for 1985 are in. In 1985, Japan's infant mortality was 5.5 infant deaths per 1,000 live births, and data from the first months of 1986 suggest that the rate is still declining. This trend in the Japanese rate is particularly interesting since other developed countries with very low infant mortality have, thus far, seen their IMR decline level off at about 6.0 and none have gone below 6. Finland, for example, reached 6.0 in 1982, but the rate for the next two years was 6.2 and 6.5, respectively.

South to Rise Again?: Florida wrested the fifth spot on the list of state population sizes from Illinois in 1986, according to the Census Bureau. Not content with that, the Sunshine State will almost certainly pass Number 4 Pennsylvania in 1987. The 1986 estimate for Florida was 11,675,000, an increase of about 300,000 over 1985. Florida should approach 12 million later this year and surpass Pennsylvania's 11.9 million given the very slow growth in that state. That may end Florida's climb up the population ladder for some time. Texas, in the third spot, was approaching 17 million in 1986 and adding numbers of people at a pace at least as fast as Florida. California and New York, of course, occupy the top positions. While California's 27 million and high population growth should guarantee it the top position for the foreseeable future, New York could easily be passed by Texas before 1990 – unless the recent "oil bust" is for real.

Here and There . . . South Korea's sex ratio at birth has risen to 117 boys to 100 girls, a result of a preference for male babies and prenatal amniocentesis tests. . . official estimates for the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico through 1985 indicate that emigration, probably to the U.S., may have begun anew. . . Cuban infant mortality was down to 13.9 infant deaths per 1,000 births in 1986. . . the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service reports that there was a 30 percent drop in apprehensions of illegal aliens since September, no one knows if this might be a result of the new U.S. immigration legislation.

Correction: The good news about more detail on the migration question (*PT*, Dec. 1986) applies to the Current Population Survey (CPS), not the 1990 Census. The Census Bureau plans to add a question on reason for moving and activity one year ago to the CPS, beginning with the March 1988 survey. —*CH*

ADDENDA

The world needs more population in its literature. True, there have been population-explosion novels, like *The Wanting Seed*, by Anthony Burgess, and *Make Room! Make Room!* by Harry Harrison.

More advanced are the novelist displaying demographic sensitivity. Jonathan Swift and Edgar Rice Burroughs (in *Gulliver's Travels* and *A Princess of Mars*, respectively) showed enviable demographic awareness, limning the dynamics of their population *as a matter of course*, something Ernest Hemingway probably wouldn't have dreamt of (unless the population was of antelope).

But how about some emotion, folks? Consider our favorite population reference, a little throwaway occurring in the futuristic novel quoted at the right.

> *Dad sniffed the steaks and grinned. "Oh boy! Bill, you'll bankrupt us."*
>
> *"You let me worry," I said. "I'm still plus for this quarter." Then I frowned. "But I won't be, next quarter, unless they quit cutting the ration."*
>
> *"Did you notice the results of the Chinese census as well? Try it on your slide rule."*
>
> *I knew what he meant – and the steak suddenly tasted like old rubber.*

– from *Farmer in the Sky*, by Robert A. Heinlein, a 1950 science fiction novel for young people about the crowded 22nd century. Nothing ruins a good steak like hearing census results.

CURRENT READINGS

PRB welcomes materials on population topics for possible inclusion in Current Readings. Publishers may address review copies to Book Review Editor, POPULATION TODAY, Population Reference Bureau, 777 14th St., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20005.

POPULATION GROWTH IN LATIN AMERICA AND U.S. NATIONAL SECURITY, edited by John Saunders. Winchester, Mass.: Allen & Unwin, 1986. 305 pages. $25.00. ISBN 0-04-497002.

In 1950, Latin America and North America had approximately equal populations, about 165 million.

Since that time, population in Latin America has increased by two-and-one-half times, while North America grew by 60 percent. Even with slower growth rates, Latin America's total population will probably end up being twice as large as North America's before the two reach some form of population stabilization.

Because of their geographic proximity and common economic and political ties, population trends in Latin America have major implications for the security interests of North America. This theme was the focus of a recent conference at Mississippi State University's Center for International Security and Strategic Studies, and the papers presented at the meeting have been edited in this volume by Professor John Saunders. It brings together expertise in demography, sociology, political science, international affairs, and related fields.

The papers are divided into two groups, one providing a demographic perspective and the other examining security dimensions. On the demographic side, Stycos reviews current and prospective population trends; Gendell examines the links between population growth and labor absorption; Diaz-Briquets and Macisco analyze emigration trends; Musgrove discusses the question of food supply; and Clinton looks at the extent to which population growth is eroding development efforts.

In the section on security, Howard and Ieda Wiarda study links between demographic factors and internal unrest in Latin America; Mason examines the contribution of demographic factors to the political crises in Central America; Papp links the labor absorption and food supply issues to U.S. security interests; Hayes provides a similar focus on economic questions; and Taylor discusses military regimes and military assistance.

Introductory papers by DeWitt and Saunders provide a thoughtful context for the reader to think through the complex issues involved. The volume provides no ready answers, but rather offers a broad range of experience and insight for those interested in the implications of Latin American population trends.

— Thomas W. Merrick

AN INTRODUCTION TO POPULATION, by Kenneth C.W. Kammeyer and Helen Ginn. Chicago: The Dorsey Press, 1986. 336 pages. $33.00. ISBN 0-256-03446-X.

The past few years have seen an "explosion" of basic textbooks, with courses being taught under such titles as "population studies" or "population problems" or "introduction to population" – not courses in demography per se, but rather introductions to the exciting area of population dynamics. Since both students and teachers come to these courses from many disciplines, there is a need for a variety of textbooks emphasizing different approaches.

In this expanding field, Kammeyer and Ginn's new text occupies an important niche. *Introduction to Population* follows their mid-1970s volume, in vastly expanded and revised form; still relatively brief, its 282 pages of main text are concise and exceedingly well written for its intended audience: freshmen and sophomores taking electives while searching for a major.

"The students who elect to take a population course usually have a mild curiosity about the field," the authors explain, "combined with some expectation that they will find the study of population to their liking. We have tried to write a book that will satisfy that curiosity and demonstrate the attractiveness of population as a field of study." They have succeeded admirably in following their own teaching goals.

The book stresses that population is both an independent and dependent variable, and emphasizes the consequences of this for the society. Both Kammeyer and Ginn are sociologists, and this is reflected in their approach, a definite plus factor.

Many studies are discussed to illustrate their demographic as well as societal importance. These range from Kitagawa and Hauser's study of social class and mortality to Lincoln Day's on religious differentials in fertility. As a result the students are introduced to the most important work in the field and how it relates to the real world. The final chapter devoted to "Politics and Population Policy" is particularly appropriate for the intended audience.

It should be emphasized that this is a *basic* textbook. The authors discuss life tables and net reproduction rates but do not attempt to show how to construct these measures. For the instructor who prefers to emphasize his or her own lectures and use a text to complement these presentations, Kammeyer and Ginn's new book is worth giving serious consideration.

— Leon F. Bouvier

SPOTLIGHT

SINGAPORE

Population (mid-1986 est.): 2.6 million
Land area: 226 sq. miles
Population density: 11,504 people per sq. mile
Births per 1,000 pop. (1985 est.): 16
Deaths per 1,000 pop. (1985 est.): 5
Rate of natural increase (1985 est.): 1.1 per cent
Total fertility rate (1985 est.): 1.7
Infant mortality rate (1985 est.): 9.4 infant deaths per 1,000 live births
Life expectancy at birth (1982): 71 years
GNP per capita (1984 est.): US$6,660

by Arthur Haupt

Located at the end of the Malay Peninsula on an oblong island and nearby islets, the tiny but densely populated city-state of Singapore has a population of 2.6 million. 76 percent Chinese, with Malays constituting 15 percent, Indians and Pakistanis 7 percent, and trace elements of numerous other nationalities.

It was a fishing village of 200 people when it was purchased in 1819 by the British East India Company. By the early 20th century Singapore had become an important colonial naval base in the Strait of Malacca and was known to the British as "the Gibraltar of the East."

In 1963 it achieved independence as part of Malaysia. But after racial unrest erupted between the city's majority Chinese and Malays, it seceded from Malay-dominated Malaysia and in 1965 became an independent republic.

Singapore possesses no significant natural resources and has always generated its own economic progress. Traditionally successful as a commercial and trade center, in the early 1960s it followed the recommendations of a UN survey to industrialize its economy.

The drive toward economic development has been by any measure spectacularly successful. Singapore now has very nearly the highest national GNP per capita of any less developed country. Its wages are much higher than those of other "economic miracle" Asian countries (e.g., Taiwan and Korea) and approach those of Japan.

It has accomplished this, thanks largely to a (from a management standpoint) dream labor force, national economic plans that have shrewdly encouraged the right industries, and a political consensus that authority was best devolved from above.

During the 1950s, population growth was nearly 5 percent a year due to high fertility and intensive immigration. In 1961, the government initiated a national family planning program aimed at reducing fertility and population growth. Foreign workers were also strictly regulated.

The population program, with its slogan "stop at two," was effective; the total fertility rate fell from 5.5 to the present 1.7. With fertility now below replacement, Singapore's Population and Family Planning Board began to wind down its activities, and Lee Kuan Yew, Prime Minister as well as prime mover of Singapore since independence, has launched a new, pronatalist battle cry: "At least two. Better three. Four if you can afford it."

Singapore, however, is a congested place. The jungle that once overgrew the island has nearly vanished, replaced by urban construction, satellite cities, and new landfill. Some 80 percent of the population lives in public high-rise apartment complexes.

In a recent speech, Lee pointed out that "We wouldn't be here [nor] have made the economic progress, if we had not intervened on very personal matters – who your neighbor is, how you live, the noise you make, how you spit (or where you spit), or what language you use." Under Lee, Singapore's form of government has been an honest but no-nonsense one-party democracy that brooks dissent but prefers orderliness. In short, the tiny island offers a futuristic glimpse: a paved-over, productive, and mostly harmonious society, well on the way to developed-country status – and living in very close quarters.

Singapore grows up, not out.